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THE WORK OF THE BUREAU OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HYGIENE, MICROBIOLOGY  
AND EPIDEMIOLOGY, ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES USSR, DURING 1958

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# FOREWORD

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THE WORK OF THE BUREAU OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HYGIENE, MICROBIOLOGY  
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B. N. Shumkin and  
A. I. Danilov

In 1958, the Bureau of the Department of Hygiene, Microbiology and Epidemiology held 35 meetings. In addition, in May the Bureau organized and conducted a Session of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR jointly with the Ministry of Health RSFSR in Astrakhan, dedicated to intestinal infections.

At these meetings of the bureau during the course of the year over 100 scientific, organizational and personnel problems were investigated, including 13 reports on the work of the Institutes of the Department of Hygiene, Microbiology and Epidemiology (OGMiE), or problem commissions working at the base of the institutes; six reports on the results of labors of expeditions for the study of diseases with a vague etiology; six reports of directors of institutes of OGMiE on the results of sessions and conferences, on the plan of the Ministry of Health to reduce infectious diseases in 1958 and 1959. Besides this, there were reviewed and confirmed the results of scientific research labors of the institutes for 1958, the plans for 1959, the results of work for 1957 and the plans for 1958 of the Active Members and Corresponding Members of OGMiE, who do not work in Academy establishments; the prospective seven-year plans which the Institutes of OGMiE are in charge of. Likewise, 11 accounts of foreign visits by Soviet scientists were heard.

In accordance with the letter from the Deputy Minister of Health USSR, V. M. Zhdanov, a report from the Director of the Institute of Nutrition of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, O. P. Molchanov, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR was heard and discussed at the meetings of the bureau on 11 March and 1 July 1958. This report concerned the work of the Institute on cancerogenic agents and the problems confronting them about the broad application of various series of chemical substances in agriculture and the food industry.

The bureau acknowledged the necessity of considerably increasing the work on the study and hygienic appraisal of food products which can contain: a) residual quantities of toxic chemicals used in agriculture for controlling various pests (insecticides, fungicides, nematocides, etc.); b) various additives put in food products for the purpose of improving their organoleptic qualities (dyes, aromatics, emulsifiers, anti-oxidants, stabilizers and others); c) substances put into products for preservative purposes or into the feed of young animals to speed up their growth, particularly antibiotics, use of which in the food industry and in agriculture has acquired even wider distribution; d) substances which can be introduced or be developed as a result of the use of certain forms of food product treatment; e) substances which can pass into (food) products from equipment, from protective films from crating, from packing materials. The latter problem is connected also with the hygienic research of new polymers which will be widely used in the food industry in the coming years.

The bureau has stated that research on food products for the purpose of their hygienic approval should be conducted:

- 1) from the point of view of the effect of residual quantities of chemical substances and of additives on the organoleptic properties and the physiological value of food products;
- 2) for establishing the absence of toxic action during protracted consumption;
- 3) for establishing the absence of cancerogenic action of non-food additives and substances, which are formed in products or passed into them from equipment, crating, protective and packaging materials. Research on the toxicity, and especially for cancerogenicity, should be supplied with a sufficient number of different animals and should be conducted for a long period of time (not less than one to two years).

The bureau acknowledged the expediency of briefing the Kiev Institute of Nutrition on the chemico-toxicological topic.

Upon considering the increased exchange of food products between individual nations, the bureau spoke out for the participation by Soviet representatives (in particular from the Institute of Nutrition of the Academy of Medical Sciences, USSR) in the International Commission for the Selection of a Unified European Food Codex.

In accordance with the letter from the Deputy Minister of Health USSR, V. M. Zhdanov, at the bureau meeting held on April 28, 1958, the problem was investigated to stop production of little-effective vaccines and sera.

The bureau charged Corresponding Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences, Prof. V. L. Troitskii, to study this problem, together with scientists and practical health workers and to prepare suggestions for the Ministry of Health USSR.

As a result of this work the Ministry of Health USSR was advised:

- 1) to stop production of:
  - a) The sera - antigenococcus, antibrucellosis and anti-streptococcus.
  - b) the vaccines - mosquito, streptococcus, staphylococcus.
- 2) to stop mass production but retain small centralized (at three or four places in the country) reserves for use in cases of severe forms of diseases:
  - a) sera - antimeningococcus, antiscorlatinal, shick, anti-dysenteric;
  - b) vaccine against Omsk hemorrhagic fever
- 3) gradually to exchange the domestic antitoxin against tetanus and diphtheria by attrition for more effective preparations.

At meetings in 1958, the bureau twice discussed the problem of the specific prophylaxis of poliomyelitis by immunization orally of a live, attenuated vaccine. At the first meeting the report of Prof. N. N. Ginsburg was heard on the inoculations against poliomyelitis of live vaccine of the Sabin strains, which Prof. A. A. Smorodinstsev is conducting. At the second meeting a report by Prof. M. P. Chumakov was discussed which concerned the broad testing program on children of live attenuated vaccine against poliomyelitis.

As a result of the thorough discussion, the bureau accepted the decision which basically rested on a decree of the Presidium of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR. It was acknowledged that the data available on the use of the live vaccine on people against poliomyelitis attest to the safeness of the Sabin strains as an inoculating vaccine and to the presence of the immunological effect in a majority of those inoculated. There were no authentic cases of "secondary infections" by poliomyelitis among persons coming in contact with those inoculated with the live vaccine. The facts practically solved the problem concerning the possibility of conducting a broad vaccine testing program with the Sabin strains.

The remaining unresolved problems which are concerned with the live vaccine immunization (the optimal immunization program, the epidemiological effectiveness, the regularity and longevity of the immunizing effect, the variability limits of the vaccine strain, the duration and intensity of virus-carriage among contact groups and others) require further study.

The Presidium indorsed the proposals of Prof. A. A. Smorodinstev and Prof. M. P. Churakov to test the live antipoliomyelitis vaccine in 1958 and 1959 on a limited number of children.

The tests undertaken by Prof. M. P. Chumakov and Prof. A. A. Smorodinstev on the investigation of the effectiveness of the live anti-poliomyelitis vaccine were also indorsed by the Collegium of the Ministry of Health USSR. (Inoculations with the live attenuated anti-poliomyelitis vaccine are being extensively continued in 1959 by Prof. A. A. Smorodinstev, Prof. M. P. Chumakov and Prof. O. V. Baroyan. On 8 September 1959, at a meeting of the bureau, Prof. O. V. Baroyan reported on the preliminary results of the epidemiological coded test on the value of the live attenuated anti-poliomyelitis vaccine conducted in June-July 1959 in 13 towns of the Sverdlovsk and Orenburg oblasts. 824,000 people were used in the test [300,000 were used as a control]. O. V. Baroyan reported that live attenuated vaccine was safe, however the possibility of its employment for anti-epidemic purposes required additional study.)

At meetings of the bureau of the Department problems were considered which concerned the introduction of new antibiotics into practice, with a rational system of applying them. Other scientific and practical questions of this problem were also discussed.

At a joint meeting with Department of Clinical Medicine of the Academy of Medical Science, USSR, the results of experimental and clinical study of new antibiotics "mycerin" which was prepared in the Section on Infectious Pathology and Experimental Therapy (Head - Prof. Kh. Kh. Planel's) of the Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology imeni N. F. Gamalaya, were supplied. The new preparation was tested in the clinic of the Institute of Neurosurgery (Prof. A. A. Shlykov, V. F. Imshenetskaya), in the Hospital imeni S. P. Botkin (M. G. Glazman) and in Maternity Home No 16 (D. I. Dmitriyeva).

The tests showed that the new antibiotic "mycerin" is an effective agent for treating diseases caused by staphylococci and other micro-organisms which are resistant to a number of antibiotics and in particular to penicillin and streptomycin.

Clinical testings of the past months have demonstrated the effectiveness of mycerin for the treatment of gastric-intestinal illnesses in young children, caused by pathogenic serotypes of *Bacillus Coli* and also of analogous diseases of vague etiology.

In December 1958 at the joint meeting of the bureau of OGMIE and the Department of Clinical Medicine (OKM) together with the Committee on Antibiotics and Problem Commission on Antibiotics, discussion was conducted on the decision of the Collegium of the Ministry of Health USSR of 21 November 1958: "Concerning the Results and Prospects of Using Antibiotics for Needs of Health" see Vestnik AMN SSSR, 1959, No 5.

The bureau suggested to S. D. Yudintsev, Director of the Institute for Search on New Antibiotics, to prepare a list of antibiotic synonyms and their medicinal forms for the purpose of classifying antibiotics released and used in practice.

Together with the problem commissions of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, the bureau discussed the state and prospects of treating certain problems: No 21 "The Natural Focus of Diseases" (Chairman - Prof. P. A. Petrishcheva); No 14 "Scientific Facts of Serum-vaccine Matter" (Chairman - Prof. G. V. Vygodchikov); No 15 "General Regularity of the Infectious and Epidemiological Process and Bases for Liquidating Infectious Diseases" (Chairman - Prof. Sh. D. Mashkovskiy).

During the discussion of problem No 21 the fruitful, leading role of the sections on Infections and Natural Foci of the Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology imeni N. F. Gamaleya was cited, from whose works scientists have gained further knowledge on the natural foci of human infections. The fundamental conditions for the existence of foci of diseases and the methods of infecting man were studied; the fundamental directions of further study of landscape epidemiology were determined; systems of prophylactic measures during the settling of a new locality were developed, etc.

The Chairman of Problem Commission No 14, Prof. G. V. Vygodchikov reported that in 1958 over 330 topics from the plans of 21 scientific establishments were reviewed, which encompassed the most important questions of the problem: development of the theoretical bases and introduction into practice of live vaccine against brucellosis, tularemia, grippe and creation of chemical vaccines against intestinal infections and introduction into practice of anatoxins for the prophylaxis of a series of infections (diphtheria, tetanus and others).



A report by Prof. Sh. D. Moshkovskiy on the basic results and prospects for further investigations of problem No 15 was discussed in detail. A resolution of the bureau noted deficiencies which are hampering the broader development of the study of the problem and concrete measures for their removal.

In July the bureau reviewed the report of Doctor of Medical Sciences E. M. Novgorodskiy (Leningrad) "The Status of the Problem Dealing with the Classification of Dysentery Bacteria in the USSR." The bureau of OGME approved the (report) presented by E. M. Novgorodskiy "A Provisional Classification of Bacteria of the Dysentery Group," sent it to the Deputy Minister of Health USSR, V. M. Zhdanov and recommended that E. M. Novgorodskiy publish it.

In 1958 meetings the bureau paid great attention to three hygienic problems.

At one of the meetings the results of the discussion concerning the sanitary protection of reservoirs were reviewed. In its decision the bureau noted that the discussion aided in widely enlightening a series of important theoretical and practical questions of the sanitary protection of reservoirs, acknowledged as correct the position taken in this discussion by the editors of the periodical Gigiyena i Sanitariya [Hygiene and Sanitation] (see editors article in that periodical, No 3, 1958), and ordered that the permissible limits of concentration of harmful substances in the air, water, soil and food products are the most important hygienic standards which must rest on the basis of modern sanitary legislation.

The Director of the Institute of General and Municipal Hygiene imeni A. N. Sysin of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, Prof. N. N. Litvinov, delivered a report "On the Sanitary Custody of the Soil of Inhabited Areas."

In its resolution on the report the bureau stated that the institute over the past years has conducted a complex investigation on the care of soils in the large cities of the various union republics.

In order to decrease the levels of morbidity of dysentery, together with virus diseases and helminthic infection, it is necessary to urgently put into practice broad, complex measures on the simultaneous development of centralized economy-drinking water supply, sewer system and sanitary cleaning of populated areas.

In relation to the discussion the bureau suggested to the Institute of Organization of Sanitation and of the History of Medicine imeni A. N. Semashko to expand the hygienic research in the field of sanitary



care of soil in populated areas in union with the Academy of Municipal Economy and other organizations, in the first instance on the following basic problems:

- 1) the study of the role in soil contamination by organic refuse in the epidemiology of certain virus diseases, by harmful discharges and waste products from industrial enterprises, by radioactive waste products;
- 2) the effect of soil microelements on the health of the population;
- 3) the hygienic requirements for the detoxication of sewage for using it in agriculture in different climatic and soil areas;
- 4) the hygienic appraisal of methods for the collection, elimination (evacuation) and detoxication of refuse under the same conditions.

The manager of the Section of Air Hygiene of the Institute of General and Municipal Hygiene imeni A. A. Sysin of the Academy of Medical Sciences, USSR, Candidate of Medical Sciences M. S. Gold'berg, delivered a report at the meeting of the bureau on the topic "The Fundamental Hygiene Problems in the Field of the Sanitary Care of the Atmosphere."

In a resolution after the report the bureau of OGMiE directed that the completed works in the field of the sanitary care of air permit presentation of the question concerning the regulation of a system of national measures to control contaminated air in populated areas. Together with this, the further growth of industry in the USSR during the 1959-1960 period, in particular, the construction of thermal electric power stations of great size and the expansion of the chemical industry in the production of synthetic materials, push forward the technical and hygienic problem of intensifying scientific research in the field of preventing atmospheric pollution by industrial discharge harmful to the health of the population and the organization of effective sanitary controls for the purity of the atmospheric air of populated areas. This same report was heard at the Presidium of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR and it was suggested to the Institute of General and Municipal Hygiene imeni A. N. Sysin of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR to prepare the basic conditions of the regulation of the sanitary care of the atmosphere.

At a meeting held on 11 March 1958, the bureau together with the chairmen of the problem commissions surveyed a number of problems of the prospective seven-year plan for medical sciences which specified the development of immunology, epidemiology, microbiology, virology, general and professional hygiene and nutritional hygiene.

The bureau suggested to the chairmen of the problem commissions to make a number of changes, additions and corrections to the task plans.

At the bureau meeting of 23 June 1958, the texts of reports delivered by V. M. Zhdanov, V. D. Timakov, and V. L. Troitskiy at the VII International Congress of Microbiologists in Stockholm were heard and approved.

The organization field session of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR jointly with the Ministry of Health RSFSR, held in May 1958 in Astrakhan, occupied a special place in the activity of the bureau in 1958. The session was dedicated to the discussion of the problem of intestinal infections in the towns of the Lower Volga (dysentery, typhus abdominalis, colienteritis, epidemic hepatitis) (see Vestnik AMN SSSR, No 9 and 10, 1958).

For purposes of prophylaxis and combating dysentery the session recommended:

1. To carry out in life, in turn, a system of dysentery prophylaxis, of preventing outbreaks of intestinal disease, paying special attention to measures to lower morbidity among children and a sound organization of dispensary service to the diseased.

2. To the heads of health organizations, to strengthen in every way the administration of intestinal infections and to use their workers only according to proper designations, to organize more broadly the administration for dispensary service for children suffering from dysentery.

3. To open in towns and areas unsafe according to the morbidity of intestinal infections diagnostic stations or sections in the first instance for young children suffering from severe intestinal infections and sections for convalescent dysentery patients.

4. By considering the frequency of side reactions related to the non-rational use of antibiotics in young children, the specific medical indication to be followed during treatment and to conduct this treatment in conjunction with other measures (proper nutritional regimen and stimulating therapy).

5. Upon considering the severe consequences of children infected with coli-enteritis: a) to conduct diagnosis for coli-enteritis with compulsory use of laboratory investigatory methods. For this purpose clinical and polyclinical laboratories should be supplied with single methodical rules concerning the bacteriological diagnosis and the

corresponding diagnostic preparations; b) to bring about a compulsory registration of those ill from coli-enteritis in large towns with the subsequent extension of this measure to other populated places; c) to conduct detailed epidemiological investigations during each coli-enteric illness for establishing the sources and preventing the outbreaks of this disease, especially in children and medical establishments; d) for purposes of improving the diagnoses of intestinal diseases in young children to conduct investigations not only for dysentery but also for salmonellosis and colibacillosis flora.

In connection with the discussion of the problem of typhus abdominalis the Session indicated the basis and opportuneness of raising the question about liquidating typhus abdominalis in a number of areas and about the universal, sharp increase of morbidity due to typhus abdominalis in the past years.

The session noted that in the clinic and in the epidemiology of post-war typhus abdominalis and paratyroids an unequal territorial distribution of the diseases has been noticed, an increase in the specific weight of the lungs and of worn-out structures, an increase of morbidity among the more young.

The session stated that a basic prerequisite for the liquidation of typhus abdominalis as an epidemic form and for sharply decreasing morbidity in all populated areas is the resolution of problems in the shortest time possible, which are connected with the supply to the population of good-quality drinking water, detoxification of sewage, in the first instance the sewage of infectious hospitals, with an improvement of the general sanitary condition of populated areas.

In relation to the prophylaxis and control of salmonelletic diseases the session recommended to the Ministry of Health USSR to organize everywhere the diagnostics of salmonelleses and their registration by established structures and to the proper organizational-methodical rules to health organs.

The session recommended to scientific research institutes of epidemiology and microbiology, institutes of sera and vaccines the appropriate chairs of medical institutes and institutes of clinical profiling to step-up research efforts on the problem of salmonelleses, on their pathogenesis, epidemiology, prophylaxis and management, to attend to the clinical study of sporadic infections and their differential diagnostics.

Participants of the session expressed the belief that the performance of the recommendation made by the session will speed up the eradication of typhus abdominals and lead to a sharp decrease in other intestinal infections including dysentery.

In the course of the year the bureau of the department repeatedly reviewed the results of sessions and conferences conducted by the institutes. During the process of reviewing these results the bureau noted the chief results of efforts and planned measures for implementing the resolutions of the sessions and conferences.

Thus, for example, upon reviewing the results of the XI Session of the Institute of Virology imeni E. I. Ivanovskiy it was noted that new facts were obtained by the institute for use in the absence of nosological independence of such diseases as two-wave meningo-encephalitis (A. A. Smorodintsev) and two-wave lactic fever (M. P. Chumakov); the great variation of clinical forms of encephalitis and the multifarious ways of transmitting virus were shown. The Conference on Influenza Control was held in Kiev in September 1958 and was organized by the Institute of Infectious Disease of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR together with the Institute of Virology, the Institute of Experimental Medicine of the Academy of Medical Sciences, USSR and the Ukrainian Republic Problem Commission on Influenza of the Ministry of Health UkSSR.

At the meeting of the bureau the results of the scientific conference for the specific prophylaxis of whooping cough, on the use of pertussoid and pertussoid-diphtheria vaccines prepared in the Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology imeni N. F. Gamalaya were discussed. The bureau seconded the resolution of the Scientific Council of the Institute on rewarding M. S. Zakharova and a number of other scientific workers for developing the method of preparing whooping cough vaccine, its study and practical application (M. S. Zakharova and a number of other workers were rewarded by the Ministry of Health USSR).

On the report of Doctor of Biological Sciences, D. N. Zasukhin, dealing with the results of an institute conference on the problem of toxoplasmosis, the bureau made the decision to present before the Ministry of Health the problem concerning the realization of the resolutions of the conference, namely:

- 1) on the inclusion in the program for the improvement and specialization of physicians-laboratory technicians of laboratory diagnostic methods of toxoplasmosis;
- 2) on providing to union republics and oblasts and country centers the possibility of conducting biological, serological and allergic reactions on toxoplasmosis;
- 3) on the production of chloridine, used in the treatment of toxoplasmosis;

4) to issue guidance on toxoplasmosis in 1959-1960, to publish the works of the conference and to include this infection in textbooks and training programs in viruses or infectious diseases, children's infections, obstetrics and gynecology, eye diseases and others, and also to ask the Department of Clinical Medicine of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR to include the clinical study of toxoplasmosis in the plans of the clinical institutes.

The largest organizational matter repeatedly discussed at meetings of the bureau of OGMiE in 1950 and which received affirmative resolution in 1958 (a decree of the Presidium of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, judgment of the Collegium of the Ministry of Health USSR and Order of the Minister of Health USSR No 321 of 23 June 1958) was the organization of the Institute of Hygiene of Children and Adolescents.

In February 1958, the bureau of OGMiE reviewed the completion of the plan of measures to be used by the institutes of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR for decreasing infectious morbidity in 1958 and advised the directors of institutes to present quarterly statistical reports on its fulfillment.

In November 1958, the Bureau together with the directors and scientific workers of institutes and representatives of problem commissions heard a report delivered by Chief of the Epidemiological Division of the Ministry of Health USSR, M. I. Murov'yev, on the projected plan of measures of the Ministry of Health USSR for 1959 for decreasing infectious morbidity and recommended to the speaker to introduce changes and corrections to the draft in accordance with suggestions enumerated during the discussion of the plan at the bureau meeting.

In the latter months of 1958, as in other years, the results of scientific research works of the institutes for the current year were reviewed and the research plans for 1959 were approved.

The directors of institutes stepped forward as the speakers while the scientists, the individual members of the Bureau of the Department, were the critics. In 1958, the Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology imeni N. F. Gamalaya organized and offered a number of valuable prophylactics (trinatoxin, purified staphylococcus anatoxin, pertussoid vaccine) medicinal preparations (mycerin, grizemin) and diagnostic methods (luminescent sera) and others for practical application. The institute rendered great consultative and scientific methodological assistance to health organs and scientific enterprises of the USSR, and also to peoples' democratic countries (China, Korea, Vietnam, Bulgaria and others).



The bureau stated that a plan had been developed in agreement with the tasks of the seven-year plan of expansion of Soviet public health. At the same time an institute was cited for inefficient provision of equipment in the work between sections of the institute and with clinicians-infectious disease specialists; for insufficiently developing research on the improvement of bacterial preparations; in work on natural focus the teaching staff of the chairs of biology of medical institutes were poorly involved. Prof. S. N. Muromtsev, Director of the Institute, was advised to eliminate the enumerated deficiencies, especially research on the variability of microorganisms linked with questions of radiation microbiology, to develop a single method for studying the reactivity of vaccines, to ensure the further expansion of research on the study of protective antigens of various types, to work on the improvement and simplification of drying methods for bacterial preparations, etc.

The Institute of Virology imeni D. I. Ivanovskiy, in charge of the problem "Virus Diseases, Especially Influenza and Catarrhs of the Upper Respiratory Tract," in 1958 as in other years conducted the scientific research work on general virology, influenza, and acute influenza of the respiratory tract, encephalitis, epidemic hepatitis, measles, ornithosis and trachoma.

Among the projects completed in 1958 should be cited the study of the immunological structure of the population in different geographical zones of the USSR in relation to poliomyelitis and tick encephalitic viruses, permitting the development of more rational vaccination programs; the study of the relationship between the content of anti-influenza antibodies in sera and the development of Pandemic Influenza in 1957, for the development of the technology for influenzal serum; the development of a method for obtaining influenzal diagnostic sera; for separating the hepatitis virus of dogs and others.

The 1959 scientific research plan was fundamentally approved at a meeting of the bureau. Director of the Institute, Prof. P. N. Kosyakov, was advised to amend it in connection with observations mentioned in the debates, and in studying problems of general virology to concentrate on actual fundamental topics.

In 1958, the Institute for the Study of Poliomyelitis completed much work on the wide introduction into practice of killed vaccine against poliomyelitis. The 1959 plan provided for the broad testing of the live vaccine against poliomyelitis. In this connection the institute was advised to intensify research on the safety and effectiveness of utilized strains of the live anti-poliomyelitis vaccine. Work was recommended on the creation of combined vaccines (in particular against tuberculosis and poliomyelitis), also recommended were the

development of a method for diagnosing poliomyelitis and the intensification of the study of epidemiology of poliomyelitis.

The Institute of Work Hygiene and Occupational Diseases of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, responsible for the problem "Work Hygiene and Occupational Diseases," in 1958 conducted scientific research on the sanitation of working conditions and on lowering occupational diseases and intoxications in the various industrial branches, on the study of working conditions during the introduction of new techniques, new technological processes and new chemical substances.

In the 1959 work plan, in agreement with the resolution of the May Plenum of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the institute considerably expanded the working out of work hygiene problems in the chemical industry, industrial toxicology, etc. Further expansion in 1959 will be made on efforts concerning the hygienic determination of production processes involving dust formation, concerning the rationalization of working operation and rest for assembly line work in the machine building industry, concerning the study of the physiology of intellectual work.

The bureau suggested that greater attention be given in the plan for coordination of scientific research with the engineering institutes, institutes of the Academy of Sciences USSR, the Ministry of Public Health of the USSR and introducing the results of research into practice.

The Institute of General and Municipal Hygiene imeni A. N. Sysin of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, on the basis of the work of expeditions to the Arctic, of excursions to Yakutsk, Vorkuta and Monchegorsk assembled materials characterizing the physiological displacement in the organism of man during acclimatization, the morbidity of the population in the north, its (population) existence, the construction and good organization of populated areas.

With participation of representatives of the people's democratic countries the institute organized and conducted conferences on the problems of water reservoirs. In 1958, at the institute a new method was developed for determining lead in air and much time was devoted to appraisals and consultations in regard to the most important hygiene problems.

The Director of the Institute, Prof. N. N. Litvinov, was advised by the bureau to adjust, make more precise and add to the plan in accordance with the observations and suggestions made at the meeting of the bureau.



There was a suggestion that the complex projects, completed by the institute together with the Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology imeni N. F. Gamalaya and the Institute for the Study of Poliomyelitis, on the epidemiology and prophylaxis of dysentery and poliomyelitis, should be reported at a meeting of the bureau.

The Institute of Nutrition of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, in 1958 as in other years, was engaged in the solution of two fundamental problems -- "The Physiological Elements and the Nutritional Hygiene of the Healthy and Sick Man" and "The Physiology and Nutrition of the Digestive Organs."

These were the chief results of work performed by the institute in 1958; hygienic approbation was conducted on a number of chemical poisons and on potatoes irradiated with cobalt; the amount of Vitamin C lost during the preparation of food was established; there were developed a regimen and diet for the prophylactic nutrition of persons working with radioactive substance and ionizing radiation, a nutrition program for metropolitan night shift workers, a combined method of effective therapy for several forms of diabetics; there were developed and clinically tested diet variations during complicated coronary arteriosclerosis, adiposis, hypertension and vitium cordis; the differentiated standards of nutrition were presented to Gosplan USSR, for the union republics for their use during the compilation of planning data concerning the development of the national economy.

The scientific research work plan of the institute for 1958 was approved in full by the bureau which advised the Director of the Institute, Prof. O. P. Malchanov, to begin a series of practical scientific works.

The Institute for the Discovery of New Antibiotics of the Academy of Medical Science USSR, being in charge of the problem "Antibiotics," in 1958 devoted considerable attention to the searching and studying of new antibacterial and antitumor antibiotics and also to searching materials from which antibiotics can be derived, their isolation and chemical purification. Around 15,000 cultures of actinomycetes were isolated from various soil samples and about 60 new antibiotics were prepared.

The bureau approved the results of work in 1958 and the plan for 1959 and suggested that the institute consider as the chief directions of its work in 1959 the search and study on new antibiotics; a) for controlling resistant strains of microorganisms; b) antitumor and antileucosis antibiotics; c) antiviral antibiotics.

Member of the bureau of OGMIE and Active Member of Academy of Medical Science USSR, Prof. B. A. Lavrov, as in previous years presented at the bureau meeting of 6 May a review of materials which had arrived

at OGMIE up to 10 April 1958 from the active members and corresponding members who are working in establishments of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR -- on the results of 1957 and on the plan for 1958 (see Vestnik AMN SSSR, No 5, 1958).

In the work of the bureau considerable attention was devoted to hearing and discussing accounts of foreign travels by Soviet scientists, who participated in international Congresses, symposia, conventions, conferences, in the editing of international journals, in the familiarization of foreign scientific establishments and individual scientists and others.

In 1958, ten such accounts were heard at the bureau: Yu. K. Polteva -- on The Work of the XII International Congress on the Effect of Environment and Work on Health (Cannes, September 1957); Prof. S. A. Kosilov on the Symposium of Socialist Countries on the Physiology of Labor (Czechoslovakia, December 1957); Prof. V. M. Zhdanov -- on the Work of the Session of the World Health Organization; Prof. L. S. Bogolepova -- on The Study of the Experiment of the Mass Patriotic Sanitary Movement in the Chinese Peoples' Republic; Prof. Z. B. Smelyanskiy -- on The Work of the XII International Congress on Professional Medicine (Helsinki, July 1957); Corresponding Member of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, Prof. A. A. Minkh, and Doctor of Biological Sciences A. V. Beylinson -- on Rendering Scientific and Technical Aid to Bulgarian Medical Establishments and Others.

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END